



Newsletter No. 14

18 May 2022

The vision of St Lawrence Catholic Primary School, Balcatta is to share the message of God's love and friendship in a community of learners, developing the full potential of each child.

The Fruit of the Spirit: Peace

John 14:23-27

Galatians 5

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is ----, ---, -----, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.



Dear St Lawrence School Community

In next Sunday's Gospel, John 14:23-29, Jesus promises his disciples that the Father will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.

Jesus knew that we are in need of guidance in our lives, so he promised to send his Holy Spirit, an advocate. An advocate is a helper. Jesus gives us his Holy Spirit to be our advocate—our guide—so that we do not get lost on our journey to heaven.

We can benefit from the guidance of the Holy Spirit through prayer. So pray often to the Holy Spirit for help and guidance.

DANCE

Thank you to Music / Dance / Science Teacher Stephanie Freeman for the work put into the Dance Concert. Teachers put 110% into their role so you can imagine the effort required to organise a performance. It was a delight to see the joy in each and every child as they performed their very best, no matter their dance experience or ability. It was a wonderful afternoon for the students.

A late decision was made to move the venue of the Dance Concert to the School Hall. Below were factors considered by a team of four staff members:

- Anticipated outdoor temperature of 16 degrees, (Feels like it was 13 degrees).
- Clothing children would be wearing whilst outdoors.
- Wind and Rain Forecast.
- Comfort and no physical distancing of children sitting on tarpaulin.
- Managing the capacity of the School Hall and movement of traffic during the event.
- Future scheduled events on the Term Planner.
- The Music/Dance Program needing to move forward.

From the options available to us a decision was made to record the concert and share the link with parents. I do apologise parents missed the opportunity to finally be present to support their children.

As both principal and a parent, I understand your disappointment. Having such an active and supportive community does present a challenge when we wish to gather as one community in inclement weather and I can assure you, we are resolved to ensure that events planned for the future will be able to accommodate parents on site.

I thank parents who contacted me to assist us to improve our practice.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

At present, our school does not have a Parents and Friends Association. As a result, much loved events such as the Mother's Day Stall, were unable to go ahead this year.

Following the Year 4 Assembly this Friday, I would like to meet parents interested in reinvigorating the Parents and Friends of St Lawrence's Primary School. Please join us after the assembly, approximately 9.20 am, in the Meeting Room of the School Hall. Tea/Coffee will be available and feel free to bring a friend.

UNIFORMS AND SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH DAY

In the lead up to School Photographs in two weeks' time, week 6, the staff and I will be conducting Uniform Checks throughout the school. This week our focus is on School Accessories. Specifically:

- Hair Ribbons or other accessories must be in school colours only, blue or white for summer and winter uniform or gold, white, red with the sport uniform.
- Tights must be navy tights.
- Jewellery: Plain small sleepers or small gold, silver or small stone studs, only one per ear in the ear lobe.
- One cross or Christian religious medal on a chain tucked under the shirt/blouse may be worn. No rings or bracelets to be worn.
- Nail Polish and Make Up not permitted

Students who were seen to not be adhering to this policy will receive a Uniform Infringement Note. This is to bring the item in breach to your attention so you may rectify. If there is a reason for your child being out of uniform temporarily, we require you to inform us in writing.

We thank you for assisting us to maintain the unity and high standards our School Uniform promotes.



CROSS WALK ATTENDANT

Parents in the community have shown strong support to have a traffic warden on Beryl Street. The school will submit an application.

Many thanks to Sandra Mesiha for bringing the initiative to the school's attention and also completing the initial survey. Some of you would have seen Sandra standing on the street, completing the survey last Tuesday. A huge shout out to you Sandra for completing this survey, representing the 175 families of our school.

The initial survey met the minimum requirements which are:

- 200 cars both one hour before the start and end of the school day.
- 20 pedestrians both one hour before the start and end of the school.

Once our application is received by Council, a further survey will be completed by council to assess the need. We will keep you posted on the outcome.

FEDERAL ELECTION 21 MAY 2022

The National Catholic Education Commission and Catholic School Parents Australia have outlined commitments they are seeking in the 2022 Federal Election.

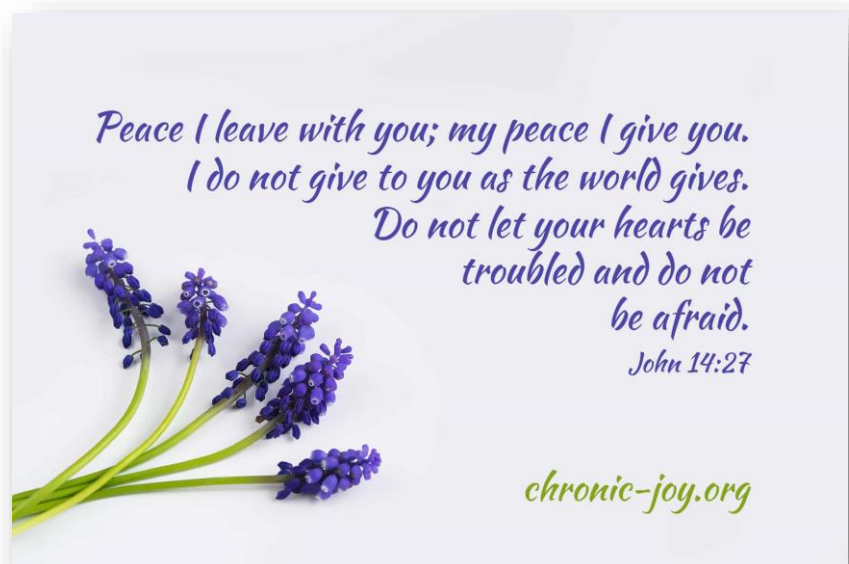
The full report card and major party responses can be found by following the below link:

<https://www.ncec.catholic.edu.au/federal-election-2022>

God Bless

Gina Burns

Short Term Principal





Federal Election

The federal election will be held on Saturday 21 May. The Catholic education sector, in collaboration with Catholic School Parents Australia, has already commenced discussions with the major political parties and candidates in some electorates, to highlight the key priorities for our school communities. These are:

Supporting school choice

Support for Catholic schools to be an affordable choice for Australian families through:

- **Funding certainty** by continuing the 10-year agreement and the current level of **indexation** to reflect increasing educational costs
- Refining **loadings for student need**, school size, regional and remote location
- Maintaining the **Choice and Affordability Fund**
- Advancing the review of the **Capacity to Contribute** formula to 2024 to ensure fairer parent contributions
- Improving **capital funding** support to adequately resource learning environments

Enabling faith-based education

- Appropriate **legislation and educational policy** to enable Catholic schools to operate and teach within a religious ethos

Delivering national priorities

- Extending the **Non-Government Reform Support Fund beyond 2022** to support the delivery of the National Education Reform Agreement and emerging priorities such as quality teaching
- Supporting **Early Childhood Education** in the two years prior to school, capital funding to grow the number of services, and improved alignment for school delivery
- Better access to **Mental Health and Wellbeing** programs to address the increasing challenge of student mental health and wellbeing, particularly for educationally disadvantaged students
- Better access for **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students** in Catholic schools to Closing the Gap initiatives that support the complex needs of students

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

SCHOOL PHOTOS

The School photos are scheduled for **Wednesday 1 June 2022**.

Kindy, Pre-Primary and Year 1 to 6 classes will have their photos taken on Wednesday.

The Pre-Kindy class will have their photos on Thursday.

Children from Year 1 to 6 will need to be in their full winter uniform with their school jumper (No vest). Year 6 students will wear their leavers jacket. Children with long hair must have their hair tied up with blue or white accessories. Pre-Primary will need to wear their sports uniform.

More information will be sent out next week.

VISOR SIGNS

Thank you to the parents who are displaying their visor signs at Pick Up. It is helping improve the flow of traffic during the peak pick up period. A reminder to attach the sign to your left-hand side visor so it is clearly visible to the staff on duty. Thank you for your continued support.

WELLNESS WEEK

Next week we celebrate Wellness Week. During this week it is a great opportunity to take time to reflect on how we are looking after ourselves, what areas we are doing well in caring for ourselves and what more we can do to further look after our wellbeing. Creating and maintaining meaningful connections with other people is key to living a healthy and happy life. Being around those who care about you can help us feel more supported, able to cope through difficult times and have a better self-image. Make sure to be present when you are talking with your children; put your phone away and really listen when they are talking with you.

YEAR 4s ASSEMBLY

With the restrictions being lifted with large gatherings, on **Friday 20 May** the Year 4s will be leading our first whole school assembly. Due to social distancing requirements only the parents of Year 4 children will be able to attend and parents of children who are receiving a merit award, masks must be worn. If parents have other commitments and are unable to attend the assembly, they can organise someone to replace them.

ASCENSION

Ascension Day commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven. In Australia we celebrate this day on Thursday 26th May. As COVID restrictions has been lifted, the children from Pre-primary to Year 6 will attend mass.

RECONCILIATION RETREAT DAY

The Reconciliation Retreat Day for the Year 3 students will be held on **Friday 27 May** in the school hall. The 24/7 Youth Ministry will be leading the children in fun and thought provoking activities to help them cement their understanding of the Sacrament of Penance. Children will be permitted to wear free dress on that day.

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

A reminder that our school will be participating in the Walk Safely to School initiative on Friday 20 May 2022. This initiative asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. Walking all the way to school may not be realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how to build a walk into your family's daily routine. On that Friday children will be permitted to wear their Sports Uniform.

Miss Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan
Assistant Principals



Walk Safely to School Day Friday 20 May 2022

WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 20 MAY 2022

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues, and diabetes.

It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 20 May 2022!

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

*Students may wear their sport
uniform on this day.*



DANCE CONCERT

An Afternoon at the Movies

Last Friday afternoon the weather may have not been in our favour, but it did not stop us dancing up a storm at St Lawrence. I am very proud of each and every St Lawrence student for their hard work, commitment, enthusiasm and “have a go” attitude that they have exhibited during the Dance unit over the last 12 weeks in Music.

Setting the theme “At the Movies”, a medley of songs was created for each class. Students from PP to Year 3 were given the opportunity to have input in creating and refining parts of their choreography.

The Year 4 class were challenged to choose one of the songs from their medley to create a dance routine, with some included in the final performance.

Year 5 and 6 classes were given full responsibility of song selection, choreography, rehearsing, refining, and performing.

The current covid climate didn’t stop us either – and I thank those students who despite weeks absent, returned to rehearsals without complaint, and continued to put 110% in preparing for concert day. I also commend the Year 3 to 6 classes (and individuals in other classes) who wore masks through many rehearsals, again without complaint, dancing in the warmer weeks of Term 1 with a mask on, was no easy feat! But we did it!



Friday afternoon, dressed to impress, the energy was high, and the entertainment didn’t stop. To mirror the words of Mrs Burns at the end of the concert, each concert item, and every student was a true example of our school values – ***Joy, Courage, and Unity***. Well done!

Thank you!

*Mrs Freeman,
Music Teacher*



SENSATIONAL SCIENCE

This term our St Lawrence Scientists are focusing on Chemical Science. What are Materials? What are their properties? What is a solid, a liquid or a gas? Can a solid become a liquid? The questions are endless.

We have already melted chocolate with a hairdryer and made shoes out of newspaper.

Last Monday, some of our classes were treated with a visit from Mrs Di Carlantonio, who is the Science Consultant (K-12) at CEWA. With a single pillar candle Mrs D showed our Year 6s that changes to state can be both reversible (physical - the candle wax went from a solid to a liquid when exposed to heat but would return to a solid once cooled) and irreversible (chemical – the change in appearance of the wick with the creation of soot from the heat).

In Year 5, it was all about trapping gas. With 2 everyday household products, bicarbonate soda and vinegar, a funnel and a balloon, the Year 5's were able to create a chemical reaction that trapped gas for all to see.

The Year 4 class were challenged to think of as many objects as they could in their everyday life made from different materials. Take a spoon found in your kitchen drawers – most households would own a metal, plastic, AND wooden spoon. Why? What are their purposes? Well, the Year 4's, under Mrs D's guidance, learnt that different materials serve different purposes for durability, functionality, and protection. And finally, the Year 3 class discovered a lot about the world around us, including the many layers of the Earth and the state of each layer - solid, liquid or gas.

A big thank you to Mrs Di Carlantonio for spending the day with us last week. Her enthusiasm and passion for the subject ignited a lot of energy into our new topic for the term.



Thank you!

Mrs Freeman, Science Teacher

CANTEEN NEWS

THANK YOU

A big thankyou to my helper last week, Sandra for coming in and helping on Thursday. If you have any spare time (even an hour or two) to help on a Thursday or Friday, please text me on 0408834774. Your help is always appreciated.

CANTEEN SPECIAL

Arancini Special - Wednesday 25th May.

1 x Arancini Cheese or Meat & Cheese and 2 x pieces of Garlic Bread \$5.00 (add a Nippys JuiceBox for \$1 extra).

Please pre-order by Friday 20th May.

Please note there is no need to pre-order recess, children are welcome to come to the canteen at recess and lunchtime.

**Arancini
Special
Wed 25th
May
Choose
from
Cheese
Or
Meat &
Cheese
+ 2
pieces
garlic
bread \$5
Add
Nippys
juice \$1
extra**



Christina, Frances & Antonella

2022 Canteen staff

BETTER HEALTH PROGRAM

The Better Health Program has been in high demand so we've added extra places for the online program starting **May 27th 2022.**



What is it?

Better Health Program is for children aged 7 to 13 years old and their families! It runs for ten weeks and teaches them to make healthy lifestyle changes together. It's funded by the WA Department of Health and it's free to join.

What does it involve?

- Fun and interactive online sessions about physical activity, healthy eating and behaviour change.
- Weekly telehealth appointments with a qualified health professional.
- Lots of helpful resources like a drink bottle, label reading tool, meal mate cup, handouts, and a Garmin Vivo 4 fitness tracker!
- There are voucher rewards worth up to \$70 for participating.

Email:
info@betterhealthcompany.org

Call
[1300 822 953](tel:1300822953)

Limited places available so get in quick!



